

Coastal Nonpoint Program Implementation and Administration
FY04 Task 81
Final Report, Grant Period October 1, 2006 to September 31, 2007
Grant# NA04NOS4190060

For the grant reporting period, the Coastal NPS Program Manager familiarized with the VA Coastal NPS Program and partners. Contracts between the DEQ CZM and DCR SWCD were finalized to meet full program operations. Reprogramming of the remaining funds has continued, however.

The CNP Program Manager continued to undertake the development of the VA Networked Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Program through a coordinated effort between the NOAA/EPA/NPS Chesapeake Bay Office (Chesapeake NEMO) and Virginia partners. Through the coordinated process, Mathews County was selected as the pilot site for the VA Chesapeake NEMO Program due to their request for assistance, willingness to participate and readiness of their undertaking of the Comprehensive Plan revision. Working with the County Supervisor and the Chief of Planning, a series of presentations and a citizen's planning academy were identified to educate the local constituents prior to the formal beginning of the Comprehensive Plan. The intent is to provide Mathews County with water quality based education targeted towards their Board and Commissions, staff and general public. In addition, the County has requested assistance establishing their GIS system. The series, "Talking About the Future – Second Tuesdays in Mathews," is scheduled for 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month from October through February, in the Mathews County Library. Planned second Tuesday conversation topics include:

- October 9: Linking Land, Water and Growth
- November 13: Growth – What's Happening in the Region and in Mathews?
- December 11: Sustainable Rural Economic Development
- January 8: Mathews Valuable Resources
- February 12: Planning the Direction of Your Community

A partnership with the Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension was developed to increase the capacity of the Program. The VA Tech Extension program is developing the Community Viability Program targeting local government assistance. Their approach is a good fit with the VA NEMO effort as it expands the current services/assistance that can be provided. The program relies upon the DCR Regional Offices (Regional Managers and Watershed Coordinators), DCR Division of Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance (DCBLA), Planning District Commissions, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Watershed groups as the delivery mechanism.

The CNP Program Manager met with the Sea Grant Coordinators of the Virginia Clean Marina Program to explore the reinvigoration of the Program. A strategic planning effort to develop a sustainable program was undertaken and Sea Grant hired a new Clean Marina Coordinator. The Sea Grant Program secured funding from the General Assembly to support the continued expansion of the Program.

The VA DCR entered into a contract with the A-NPDC to develop the TMDL Implementation Plan (IP) for the Occohannock River. The VA DCR Coastal NPS Program Manager, through consultation with the Accomack Northampton Planning District Commission (ANPDC), the DEQ Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program, and local NGOs, selected the Occohannock River as the site for the TMDL Implementation Plan due to its location as a border between the two Eastern Shore Counties of Accomack and Northampton; historic shellfish resources and likelihood for success due to the active local groups in the area.

Due to procurement challenges, the funds for hiring a subcontractor to support the ES TMDL IP were reprogrammed to utilize FY06 funding. The remaining FY04 funds were used to cover support materials for the Chesapeake Club social marketing campaign. The support materials purchased for the Chesapeake Club Program included permanent ownership rights to two photos, printing of posters, t-shirts for restaurant staff and display boards.

The CNP Program Manager was requested to participate in the development of a strategic plan for the DCR DSW. The CNP Program Manager was requested to develop a survey for all staff within the Division, and subsequently

conduct, analyze and present those results to division staff. In addition, the CNP Program Manager was requested to facilitate the DCR DSW strategic planning efforts. In addition, the DCR CNP Program Manager was nominated and sponsored to attend the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute (VNRLI) which began in September.

The CNP Program Manager participated in the following instate meetings: DCR Nonpoint Source Advisory Committee (NPSAC); Green Infrastructure, INSTAR/ Coastal GEMS, Coastal Policy Team (CPT); CBNERVA Coastal Training Program Strategic Planning; NEMO (Mathews County); Stream Alliance; NOAA/EPA/NPS Chesapeake Bay Offices—Chesapeake NEMO; Strategic Planning Regional Office Meetings; Natural Heritage Division Training; James /Shenandoah Rivers Fish Kill; Coastal PDC quarterly meetings; Northampton County Watershed Planning Meeting; Healthy Waters Initiative; and Virginia and Chesapeake Bay Waters Clean Up (HB1150).

The CNP Program Manager attended the following conferences/national meetings: Living Shorelines; Coastal Program Manager's Meeting; invited proposal reviewer for the Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET) *Land Use Planning Tools to Improve Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Quality* Grant Panel; Environment VA; Invited *Expert* for the CZMA/CSO Visioning Expert Panel and CSO CZMA Reauthorization Working Group; CZ07; Nominated and sponsored for the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute (VNRLI); National NEMO—U5 and Forest Resources for Municipal Officials; NOAA/EPA/NPS Chesapeake Bay Offices—Chesapeake NEMO; Chesapeake Bay Program Science Technology Advisory Committee and Chesapeake Bay Program Local Government Advisory Committee (CB STAC/LGAC)

Suggested changes to the CNP—considering the bleak funding outlook, unsupported and unfunded Coastal States Organization application to NOAA's BAA, lack of funding from VACZM to continue to support nonpoint program efforts, DCR has determined the highest and best utilization and focus of the program is on local land use technical assistance with the remaining funding. It is unclear what sources of funding DCR will utilize to continue to support the Coastal NPS Program beyond the NOAA CNP funding, expiring September 31, 2008.

Additional, reprogrammed funding was incorporated into this Task to cover the support material purchase for the Chesapeake Club. Those materials included, permanent ownership rights for two stock photos, printing of posters, t-shirts, and portable signs for Chesapeake Club and nonpoint source pollution education.

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